

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

KAZUE NAKAMURA

Serial No.

09/446,769

For

DATA STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL APPARATUS AND

METHOD OF THE SAME

Filed

MAY 5, 2000

Examiner

S. T. CHANNAVAJJALA

Art Unit

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Before the issuance of the next official action, please amend the above-referenced application as follows: